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AUTHORITY

ago d/a ltr, 29 apr 1980

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

IN REPLY REFER TO

ACAM-P (M) (6 Feb 68) FOR OT RD 674052

8 February 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 57th Transportation Battalion (Truck), Period Ending 31 Oct 1967

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation by USACDC in accordance with paragraph 6f, AR 1-19 and by USCONARC in accordance with paragraph 6c and d, AR 1-19. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from Lessons Learned during current operations, and may be adapted for use in developing training materials.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

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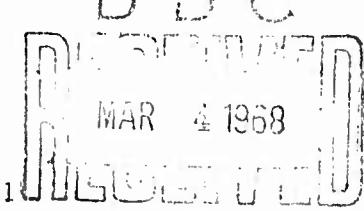
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 57th TRANSPORTATION BATTALION (TRUCK)
APO 96312

AVCA CR-MT-C-CO

6 November 1967

SUBJECT: UIC WFRCAA, Operational Report for the Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967 RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

THRU: Commanding Officer, 500th Transportation Group (Motor Transport)
ATTN: S3, APO San Francisco 96312
Commanding Officer, US Army Support Command Cam Ranh Bay,
APO San Francisco 96312
Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA GO-O,
APO San Francisco 96307
Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST,
APO San Francisco 96375
Commander-in-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: CPOP-OT,
APO San Francisco 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department
of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

(U) The operational report for this headquarters for the quarterly period ending 31 October 1967 is forwarded in accordance with USASUPCOM-CRE REG 870-1.

Reginald Deagle
REGINALD DEAGLE
LTC, TC
Commanding

FOR OT RD

674052

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 57th TRANSPORTATION BATTALION (TRUCK)
APO 96312

AVCA CR-MT-C-CO

1 November 1967

SUBJECT: UIC WFRCAA, Operational Report for the Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967 ROS CMFOR-t5 (U)

1. (U) Section I - Significant Organization or Unit Activities:

a. Lieutenant Colonel Julian H. Hall departed the Battalion on 21 August 1967, and Major Flen R. Wingard, previously the Battalion Executive Officer, assumed command until 2 September 1967, when Lieutenant Colonel Franklin J. Glunn assumed command. On 25 September 1967, Lieutenant Colonel Glunn departed the Battalion to become Commanding Officer of the 500th Transportation Group, and Lieutenant Colonel Reginald Deagle assumed command.

b. The following assignments and reassessments occurred during the reporting period:

(1) 16 September 1967 - Major Martin A. Principe assumed the position of Battalion Executive Officer.

(2) 16 September 1967 - Captain Donald R. Olsen replaced Captain Kenneth G. Scott as Assistant Operations Officer. Captain Scott rotated to CONUS for reassignment to the US Army Transportation School, Fort Eustis, Virginia.

(3) 24 September 1967 - Captain Samuel F. Broadie replaced Captain William R. Lippincott as commanding officer of the 360th Transportation Company (Medium Truck Petroleum). Captain Lippincott rotated to CONUS for reassignment to the US Army Transportation School, Fort Eustis, Virginia.

(4) 24 September 1967 - LT George A. Moeser replaced Captain Wallace D. Compton as commanding officer of the 545th Transportation Company (Light Truck). Captain Compton was reassigned to Okinawa.

c. Headquarters, 57th Transportation Battalion (Truck) was engaged in support operations for 92 days of the reporting period. Unit training was scheduled and integrated so as not to disrupt operations.

d. There were no units attached or detached from the Battalion during the reporting period.

Incl 1

FOR OT EO

674052

e. At the close of the reporting period the Battalion strength was as follows:

	<u>OFR</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
AUTHORIZED	23	5	743
ASSIGNED	22	6	712
90 DAY LEAVES	4	2	151

f. The organizational structure of the Battalion consists of a Battalion Headquarters with an organic Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, and four attached transportation companies (See Annex C).

g. During the period units of this Battalion transported the following:

	CARGO (S/T)	BULK POL (GAL)
(1) Local Haul	77,332	855,100
(2) Line Haul	28,575	5,442,650
(3) Port & Beach Clearance	35,253	497,150

h. Total miles driven during the period: 986,045

i. The 57th Transportation Battalion (Truck) continued the operational mission of providing support to the 24th Transportation Battalion (Terminal Service) in port and beach clearance and outloading operations at South Beach. An additional mission assigned to the unit working South Beach is that of clearing all Army cargo to and from the 14th Aerial Port, Cam Ranh Air Force Base. These missions were performed alternately by the 545th Transportation Company (Light Truck) and the 592nd Transportation Company (Light Truck). The light truck unit not working South Beach and the 566th Transportation Company (Medium Truck) performed the mission of line haul from Cam Ranh Bay to the destinations of Bao Loc, Dalat, Phan Rang, Nha Trang, Ninh Hoa, Tuy Hoa, Ban Me Thout, and Qui Nhon. The 360th Transportation Company (Medium Truck Petroleum) continued its mission of local and line haul of water and POL.

j. On 10 October 1967, the battalion assumed responsibility for RO/RD operations at Cam Ranh Bay. Approximately 100 Vans, Reefers, and S&P trailers are received from Okinawa every 10 days for delivery to Cam Ranh Bay Depot and 5th Special Forces Group in Nha Trang. Trailers are loaded for retrograde shipment by the 633rd Classification, Collection and Salvage Company, and the 525th Quartermaster Company.

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k. Thai Hai Transport Company, Vietnamese civilian trucking contractor, augmented battalion line haul operations from 4 October thru 31 October 1967. The company moved 2302 S/T of cargo to Phan Rang, Nha Trang, and Ninh Hoa. There were no major contract problems and the job performance by the company was very satisfactory.

1. The following support was provided outside Cam Ranh Bay on the dates indicated:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VEHICLES</u>	<u>SUPPORTED UNIT</u>
360th Trans Co	1 Aug - 31 Oct	11 M52 Tractors 12 M131 Tankers	America Division
	1 Aug - 7 Aug	3 M131 Tankers	Phan Thiet FSA
	8 Aug - 31 Oct	1 M131 Tanker	Phan Thiet FSA
	1 Aug - 7 Aug	5 M52 Tractors 5 M131 Tankers	Qui Nhon Support Cmd
	24 Aug - 31 Oct	15 M52 Tractors 15 M131 Tankers	359th Transportation Co
	1 Aug - 15 Aug	5 M52 Tractors 5 M131 Tankers	An Khe
	19 Sep - 23 Sep	4 M52 Tractors 4 M131 Tankers	Tuy Hoa Subarea Cmd
	24 Sep - 15 Oct	1 M52 Tractor 1 M131 Tanker	Tuy Hoa Subarea Cmd
566th Trans Co	1 Aug - 31 Oct	4 M52 Tractors 4 M127 Trailers	Phan Thiet FSA
	1 Aug - 4 Sep	1 M52 Tractor 1 M127 Trailer	Nha Trang Subarea Cmd
	19 Sep - 25 Sep	20 M52 Tractors 20 M127 Trailers	Tuy Hoa Subarea Cmd
	27 Sep - 4 Oct	10 M52 Tractors 10 M127 Trailers	Phan Rang Subarea Cmd
	5 Oct - 31 Oct	6 M52 Tractors 6 M127 Trailers	Phan Rang Subarea Cmd
	592nd Trans Co	19 Sep - 25 Sep	1 5-ton

m. On 27 October 1967, the 592nd Transportation Company sent 2 Officers and 79 enlisted men to Saigon as driver support for the 48th Group (Motor Transport).

n. All attached units received a 1st Logistical Command CMIC inspection during the period 10-16 October 1967. Results were as follows:

360th Trans Co - Satisfactory
 545th Trans Co - Satisfactory
 566th Trans Co - Unsatisfactory
 592nd Trans Co - Unsatisfactory

o. Outstanding achievements by units of the battalion during the period were as follows:

(1) On 11 August 1967, the 592nd Transportation Company (Light Truck), commanded by Captain Harry Nelson, Jr., broke the Cam Ranh Bay 24 hour port and beach tonnage record with 2544 S/T of cargo being moved. During September, the company attained another outstanding achievement, 500,000 accident free driving miles. Colonel Harry E. Tisdadt, 500th Transportation Group Commander, presented the award on 13 September 1967.

(2) The 545th Transportation Company (Light Truck), commanded by Captain Wallace D. Compton, was presented the Cam Ranh Bay Best Mess Award for September from Colonel Nathaniel A. Gage, Jr., Commanding Officer, United States Army Support Command, Cam Ranh Bay, on Wednesday, 13 September 1967. The company, under the command of 1LT George A. Moeser, attained 300,000 accident free driving miles during the month of October. Lieutenant Colonel Reginald Deagle, Battalion Commander of the 57th Transportation Battalion (Truck), presented a trophy to the unit on 31 October 1967.

p. Awards and decorations were presented during the period as follows:

- a. Bronze Star - 1
- b. Army Commendation Medal - 10

2. (U) Section 2, Part I - Observations (Lessons Learned):

- a. Personnel: See Annex A
- b. Operations: See Annex A
- c. Training: None
- d. Logistics: See Annex B
- e. Maintenance: See Annex B

3. (U) Section 2, Part II - Recommendations:

a. Personnel: Recommend that observation in Annex A be adopted into TOE's 55-17F, 55-18F, and 55-16F.

b. Logistics: Recommend that observation in Annex B be adopted into TOE's 55-17F and 55-18F.

c. Maintenance: Recommend that observation in Annex B be adopted.

4. (U) Section 3 - DA Survey Information: This organization did not have a Department of the Army directed investigation on a specific subject during this period.

Ronald DeGle
RONALD DEGLE
LTC, TC
Commanding

LESSONS LEARNED

Personnel

Item: (U) Shortcomings in TOE structure.

Discussion: Experience reveals that TOE personnel structure is not adequate for 24 hour operations. TOE shortcomings are as follows:

a. TOE 55-17F and 55-18F authorize only one SP4 dispatcher per company. Twenty-four hour operations require two dispatchers per company.

b. TOE 55-16F authorizes 1 Operations Sergeant and 1 Assistant Operations Sergeant for the Battalion Operations Section. For the Operations Section to function efficiently, on a 24 hour basis an additional NCO from an attached company must be placed on special duty with the section.

Observation: That TOE's 55-17F and 55-18F should authorize units 2 dispatchers, 1 SP5 and 1 SP4, and TOE 55-16F should be authorized an additional Assistant Operations Sergeant, SSG E-6. This observation has been made a part of MTOE's

Operations

Item: (U) Capabilities of truck companies.

Discussion: Paragraph 3.30 d, FM 55-15, Transportation Reference Data, gives the following daily local haul capabilities:

5 Ton Company = 45 V x 6 T x 4 T/A = 1080 S/T.

12 Ton S&P Company = 45 V x 12 T x 4 T/A = 2160 S/T.

Actual experience with degrading factors such as condition of roadways, offroad trafficability in sand and load compatibility has established the following capabilities to be more realistic for operation in the Republic of Vietnam.

5 Ton Company = 45 V x 5 T x 4 T/A = 900 S/T.

12 Ton S&P Company = 45 V x 10 T x 4 T/A = 1800 S/T.

Observation: The above factors should be evaluated for their effect on the planning capabilities of truck companies for both local and line haul as cited in FM 55-15.

LESSONS LEARNEDLogistics

Item: (U) Shortcomings in TOE structure

Discussion: TOE provides for control vehicles ($\frac{1}{4}$ tons) on the basis of 1 control vehicle per 20 task vehicles. Experience in Vietnam and requirements evolving from this experience call for control vehicles with radio AN/VTR-46 or 47 on the following basis:

Task Vehicles	Control Vehicles
1 - 9.....	1
10 - 25.....	2
26 - 39.....	3
40 - 53.....	4
54 - 67.....	5
68 - 80.....	6

TOE control vehicles are not of sufficient number to meet the above requirements.

Observation: That one additional $\frac{1}{4}$ ton control vehicle with radio per platoon be incorporated into the TOE of all light and medium truck companies. This observation has been recommended for incorporation into MTOE's 55-17F and 55-18F.

Maintenance

Item: (U) Vehicle radiators.

Discussion: Because of extremely bad road conditions, vehicle radiators have a tendency to shake loose and separate from mounting brackets. This results in severe vibration which in turn damages the radiator. An average of 18 radiators per week have been replaced by the battalion during the reporting period.

Observation: Radiators should be of the best quality construction. Also, additional mounting brackets should be utilized or more adequate securing of present mounting brackets should be made.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

57th Transportation Battalion (Truck)

- a. Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 57th Transportation Battalion (Truck), 1LT, E. J. Bodnar, Commanding.
- b. 360th Transportation Company (Medium Truck Petroleum), CPT Samuel F. Broadie, Commanding.
- c. 545th Transportation Company (Light Truck) 1LT George A. Moeser, Commanding.
- d. 566th Transportation Company, (Medium Truck), CPT Laniel P. Cronin. Commanding.
- e. 592nd Transportation Company, (Light Truck), CPT Harry Nelson Jr., Commanding.

AVCA CR-MT-S3 (2 Nov 67) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967

PA, HQ, 500th Trans G (MP), APO 96312 10 November 1967

THEU: Commanding Officer, US Army Support Command, Cam Ranh Bay,
APO San Francisco 96312
Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA CO-O,
APO San Francisco 96307
Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST,
APO San Francisco 96375
Commander-in Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: CPOP-OT,
APO San Francisco 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

1. Operational Report (RCS CSIOR-65) for the 57th Transportation
Battalion (Truck) for the period 1 August 1967 through 31 October 1967 is
forwarded.

2. Subject report adequately reflects the activities of the period
indicated.

1 Incl
ns

Franklin J. Gunn
FRANKLIN J. GUNN
LTC, TC
Commanding

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AVCA CR-10 (9 Nov 67) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: UIC WFRCAA, Operational Report for the Quarterly Period Ending
31 October 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND, CAM RANH BAY, APO 96312 14 NOV 1967

THRU: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA GO-O, APO
96307

Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST, APO 96375
Commander-in-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: CPOP-OT, APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C., 20310

The inclosed Operation Report submitted by the 57th Transportation
Battalion (Truck) adequately reflects the activities of the unit for the period
indicated with the following comments:

a. Section II, Part I, Operations, Item, Capabilities of Truck Companies.
This headquarters not only concurs in the observation but believes that the
reduced capabilities of trucks operating in the Republic of Vietnam can-
not be overemphasized.

b. Section II, Part I, Maintenance, Item, Vehicle Radiators. This
problem can and should be alleviated to some degree by the unit. Drivers
should be required to check and tighten mounting brackets daily to facil-
itate early detection and correction of loose radiator mounting brackets.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl
as

R. W. BYRNE
III AGG
ASS'T. A.D.

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AVCA GO-O (6 Nov 67)

3rd Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967
(RCS CSFOR-6) (UIC WFRCAA)

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST LOGISTICAL COMMAND, APO 96307

30 DEC 1967

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DH,
APO 96375

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned of the 57th Transportation Battalion for the quarterly period ending 31 October 1967 is forwarded.

2. Lessons Learned Annex A.

a. Item: Shortcomings in TOE structure. Nonconcur. Each truck company is authorized a truckmaster, an assistant truckmaster, and a dispatcher. By TOE the assistant truckmaster is also considered as a dispatcher. This gives the company a capability to provide a dispatcher on each of the ten hour shifts. Each battalion operations section is authorized an operations officer, an asst operations officer, an operations sergeant and an assistant operations sergeant. With four personnel within the Battalion S-3 section concerned with operations and an additional five personnel authorized it is not feasible to add an additional NCO in order for the battalion to be able to operate on a twenty-four hour basis. The TOE has sufficient personnel to operate on a continuous basis without degradation.

b. Item: Capabilities of Truck Companies: Although this particular condition exists for this battalion at Cam Ranh Bay, it has been found that throughout RVN the varying factor in computing truck capabilities has not been the load per truck, but rather the number of turnarounds realized by the trucks. For example, Cam Ranh Bay gets four turnarounds on local haul, where as Saigon only gets two. These conditions are considered by this headquarters in determining capabilities, however each company must be considered individually depending on its mission and location.

3. Lessons Learned Annex B.

a. Item: Shortcoming in TOE structures. This requirement would be valid providing all commitments were through unsecured areas. Information provided in para 1g indicates less than 21% of tonnage hauled was line hauled. Three control vehicles are sufficient to control those vehicles engaged in line haul operations.

b. Item: Vehicle radiators. Concur with 2nd Indorsement paragraph b. Radiator mounting brackets, generally, are secured to cross members with bolts and lock washers, and the radiator is spring mounted with lock nuts or lacing wire or cotter pins used to prevent the mountings from shaking loose. The reported loss of radiators during the reporting period is inordinately high, if they are in fact being lost due to excessive vibration. More care in properly mounting and securing is a likely requirement, and steps will be taken by this headquarters to insure proper corrective action is taken.

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AVCA GO-0 (6 Nov 67)

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1967
(RCS CSFOR-65) (UIC WFRCAA)

4. This headquarters concurs with basic reply as modified by indorsements. This report is considered to be adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Lynx 430

for James R Knutson CPO AGC

TIMOTHY S. O'HARA
CPT, INF
Act Asst Adjutant General

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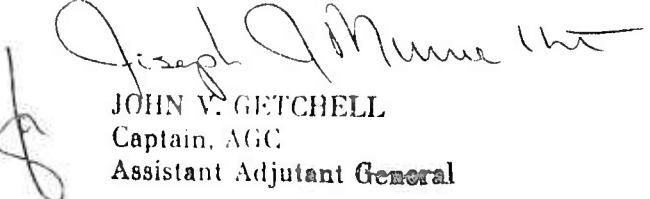
AVHGC-DST (6 Nov 67) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: UIC WFRCAAA, Operational Report for the Quarterly Period Ending
31 October 1967 RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 18 DEC 1967

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 October 1967 from Headquarters, 57th Transportation Battalion (Truck) (FRCA) as indorsed.
2. Concur with report as indorsed. Report is considered adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


JOHN V. GETCHELL

Captain, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

cc: HQ, 57th Trans Bn
HQ, 1st Log Comd

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GPOP-DT (6 Nov 67) 5th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for the Quarterly Period Ending 31 October
1967 from HQ, 57th Transportation Battalion (UIC: WFRCAA)
(RCS CSFOR-65)

HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558 11 JAN 1968

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorsements and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:


HEAVRIN SNYDER

CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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13. ABSTRACT

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